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Apparently Mr. Sevareid still is uncomfortable about the absence of beggars in Peking. Two days ago I heard him in a commentary about drug addiction to which I wasn't paying much attention, but I came to when he said, "That was a question asked about China." Wasn't taping but did make notes after he said this, so this isn't a verbatim quotation: "That was a question asked about China - where did all the drug addicts and beggars go? The answer is that they didn't go. They were sent. If we ever learn the answer, it may be a chilling one."

I may have to retract some of my snide remarks about the doctors at the Rocky Mountain Osteopathic Hospital, in view of Mrs. Beard's (should I say miraculous?) recovery. On the other hand, perhaps Mr. Nixon sent her a get-well card (costing no more than 15¢ of course, since that was the price of the valentine card Mrs. N sent Mr. N this year, we're just simple folks) - could that have done it? After all, when he was in Vietnam in Sep ~~7~~ 65 he comforted a Vietnamese girl who had had her hand blown off by saying his daughter would send her a get-well card. There simply is no limit to this man's compassion.

Letter to the editor, Newsweek 27 Mar 72: writer (S. Meric, Santa Monica) calls ITT affair "ITT-pot dome scandal."